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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of

Hathaway et al.

Serial No. 10/008,781

Filed November 13, 2001

APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR
POSTIVE CLOSURE OF AN
INTERNAL TISSUE MEMBRANE
OPENINGBefore the Examiner
WooGroup Art Unit
3731RECEIVED
FEB 09 2004
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**
SUBMITTED UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(1)Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure in accordance with 37 CFR §1.56, Applicant wishes to bring to the attention of the Examiner the patents, publications, and/or other information listed on the attached PTO Form 1449 (modified). Copies of cited items are enclosed in accordance with 37 CFR §1.98.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56(b).

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as **first class mail** in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

January 30 2004
(Date of Deposit)

James B. Myers, Jr.

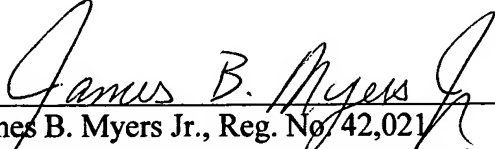
Name of Registered Representative

James B. Myers Jr.
Signature*January 30 2004*
Date of Signature

This statement is being submitted after the filing of the application and after receipt of the First Office Action, but before the mailing of an action closing prosecution of the application. It is believed that no fee is required for consideration of the submitted items. However, should any extra fees be required, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

Respectfully submitted,

By: _____


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